NOMENCLATURAL CHANGES FOR THREE PREOCCUPIED TRILOBITES GENERA

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ABSTRACT: Three junior homonyms were detected amongst the Trilobites genera and the following replacement names are proposed: Proacanthocephalus nom. nov. for Acanthocephalus Qiu, 1983; Paleonelsonia nom. nov. for Nelsonia Palmer & Gatehouse, 1972 and Paleoaethia nom. nov. for Aethia Qian & Zhou. Accordingly, new combinations are herein proposed for the species currently included in these genera respectively: Proacanthocephalus longispinus (Qiu, 1983) comb. nov.; Paleonelsonia schesis (Palmer & Gatehouse, 1972) comb. nov. and Paleoaethia rectangula (Qian & Zhou, 1984) comb. nov.

KEY WORDS: nomenclatural changes, homonymy, replacement names, Trilobites.

The purpose of the present paper is to bring the taxonomy of Trilobita into accordance with the requirements of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1999). In an effort to reduce the number of homonyms in Trilobita, I recently found three genus names which had been previously published for other taxa, making them junior homonyms. In accordance with Article 60 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, I propose substitute names for these names.

TAXONOMY

Order PTYCHOPARIIDA
Suborder PTYCHOPARIINA
Super Family PTYCHOPARIOIDEA
Family PROASAPHISCIDAE
Genus PROACANTHOCHEPHALUS nom. nov.


Remarks on nomenclatural change: The name Acanthocephalus was initially introduced by Koelreuter, 1771 as a genus name for Acanthocephala. It is still used as a valid genus name in Acanthocephala (e. g. Monks, 2001). It is a rich genus. For the present, the genus includes approximately 50 species. Subsequently, Qiu, 1983 described a trilobite genus of the family Proasaphiscidae (with the type species Acanthocephalus longispinus Qiu, 1983 from Hsuchuang, Fm, Jiangsu, China) under the same generic name. Also it is still used as a valid genus
name in Muridae (e.g. Jell & Adrain, 2002). Thus, the genus *Acanthocephalus* Qiu, 1983 is a junior homonym of the genus *Acanthocephalus* Koelreuter, 1771. So I propose for the genus *Acanthocephalus* Qiu, 1983 the nomen novum *Proacanthocephala*.

Etymology: from the preexisting middle-cambrian genus name *Acanthocephalus*.

Summary of nomenclatural changes:

*Proacanthocephala* nom. nov.  
= *Acanthocephalus* Qiu, 1983 (non Koelreuter, 1771)

*Proacanthocephalus longispinus* (Qiu, 1983) comb. nov.  
= *Acanthocephalus longispinus* Qiu, 1983

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**Order PTYCHOPARIIDA**  
**Suborder PTYCHOPARIINA**  
**Super Family PTYCHOPARIOIDEA**  
**Family PTYCHOPARIIDAE**  
**Genus PALEONELSONIA** nom. nov.


**Remarks on nomenclatural change:** Palmer & Gatehouse (1972) proposed the genus name *Nelsonia* with the type species *Nelsonia schesis* Palmer & Gatehouse, 1972 from Nelson Lst, Antarctica. It is still used as a valid genus name in Trilobita (e.g. Jell & Adrain, 2002). Unfortunately, the generic name was already preoccupied by Merriam (1897), who had described the mammal genus *Nelsonia* with the type species *Nelsonia neotomodon* Merriam, 1897 in the family Muridae. Also it is still used as a valid genus name in Muridae (e.g. Wilson & DeeAnn, 1993). For the present the genus includes two species as *Nelsonia goldmani* Merriam, 1903 (Nelson and Goldman's woodrat) and *Nelsonia neotomodon* Merriam, 1897 (diminutive woodrat). Thus, the genus *Nelsonia* Palmer & Gatehouse, 1972 is a junior homonym of the generic name *Nelsonia* Merriam, 1897. Under the Zoological Code (ICZN) it must be rejected and replaced. So I propose a new replacement name *Paleonelsonia* nom. nov. for *Nelsonia* Palmer & Gatehouse, 1972.

Etymology: from the preexisting middle-cambrian genus name *Nelsonia*.
Summary of nomenclatural changes:

_Paleonelsonia nom. nov._

\[= Nelsonia Palmer & Gatehouse, 1972 \ (non \ Merriam, \ 1897)\]

_Paleonelsonia schesis_ (Palmer & Gatehouse, 1972) **comb. nov.**

\[= Nelsonia schesis Palmer & Gatehouse, 1972\]

**Order Incertae Sedis**
**Family Incertae Sedis**
**Genus PALEOAETHIA nom. nov.**


**Remarks on nomenclatural change:** Firstly, the genus _Aethia_ was established by Merrem, 1788 with the type species _Aethia cristatella_ (Pallas, 1769) for Aves. _Aethia_ is a genus of auklets. It is still used as a valid genus name in Aves (e.g. Banks et al., 1987; Monroe & Sibley, 1993; Banks et al., 2003). It occurs only in North America. For the present, the genus includes 4 species as _Aethia cristatella_ (Pallas, 1769); _Aethia psittacula_ (Pallas, 1769); _Aethia pygmaea_ (Gmelin, 1789) and _Aethia pusilla_ (Pallas, 1811). Later, the genus name _Aethia_ was proposed by Qian & Zhou, 1984 for trilobites with the type species _Aethia rectangula_ Qian & Zhou, 1984 from Kunshan County, Jiangsu, China. Also it is still used as a valid genus name in Muridae (e.g. Jell & Adrain, 2002). However, the name _Aethia_ Qian & Zhou, 1984 is invalid under the law of homonymy, being a junior homonym of _Aethia_ Merrem, 1788. So I propose to substitute the junior homonym name _Aethia_ Qian & Zhou, 1984 for the nomen novum _Paleoaethia_.

Etymology: from the preexisting middle-cambrian genus name _Aethia._

Summary of nomenclatural changes:

_Paleoaethia nom. nov._

\[= Aethia Qian & Zhou, 1984 \ (non \ Merrem, \ 1788)\]

_Paleoaethia rectangula_ (Qian & Zhou, 1984) **comb. nov.**

\[= Aethia rectangula Qian & Zhou, 1984\]
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